

WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY

Tuesday, September 16, 1913.



W. F. MASSEY.

Hog Pasture.
"I have two lots of three acres that I have been planting for hog pasture. I sowed rape last spring, but the drought made it largely a failure. Now I would sow now a mixture of six pounds of Dwarf Essex rape and ten pounds of crimson clover on both lots. Then when the rape is strong turn on one lot, and by the time that is eaten down turn on the other, and let the clover get a start on the first lot. You are in a mild section, and the rape will live through the winter very well, and after the second lot is eaten down the clover on the first lot will be large enough to graze, and the second lot will be coming on and will be in good shape by the time the first one is short, and by taking the hogs off the first lot the clover will start up again, and probably get in bloom by the time the second lot is short. I think that in this way you can keep them going most of the winter."

"I have also an acre in cotton six feet tall. Cannot get through it with a horse. Can I sow crimson clover south there without preparation? Yes, on a shaded piece the clover seed will germinate very well without cover."

Sowing Oats.
"I have just plowed twenty acres of land that has had nothing on it for eight years, been in pasture. Can I sow oats with success on this land? There is no reason why oats should not succeed on that land. If you get it in the proper order, by disk and harrow, and then plowing, and get the soil fine and well settled. Harrow in 400 pounds of acid phosphate and twenty-five pounds of muriate of potash an acre, and drill the oats in by the middle of September, sowing two bushels an acre of the Virginia Gray Turf oats."

Tobacco After Clover.
"The land has a fine crop of corn on it, planted on crimson clover turned under last spring, and now has grown well. I want to get this land in tobacco next spring. Will tobacco do well after corn? How would it do to sow this land to clover again and turn it under for the tobacco in the spring? I have been told by a neighbor that tobacco will grow too large and coarse after clover, and will be late ripening. He also advises against deep plowing for tobacco. You are in the bright tobacco section of North Carolina, where so many of the tobacco growers insist that they must turn their tobacco to get the land rich. If this were true, I would cut out tobacco entirely in your section, for I do not believe that there is any permanent prosperity for any section in keeping the land poor. The prejudice against legumes in the bright tobacco sections has been brought about by the fact that a man has turned under clover for tobacco, and failed to realize that he has gotten a large amount of nitrogen. He goes to work and applies his usual amount of commercial fertilizer. Then the crop grew rank and late, and at once the word went out that good bright tobacco cannot be grown after peas or clover, and all the rest of the tobacco growers, not one of whom has tried it, will then tell you that you cannot grow tobacco after clover. One man's failure is told all over the county, while the success of a dozen is not noticed. Those who grow the shipping leaf and the black tobacco have no fear of clover. It is the bright tobacco men who fear clover. Now, having peas on your land, you have gotten a good deal of additional nitrogen in these. Tobacco will do all right after corn, but with peas on the land now I would not, but another legume, turn the land for tobacco, but would turn the peas under and sow rye as a winter cover. You can turn this in early spring when it is green and sappy, and it will decay rapidly and will certainly help the tobacco. With two legume crops in succession, there might be an excess of nitrogen, and late growth of the tobacco when you can get clover on the land again by sowing crimson clover seed among the tobacco stalks, the leaves having been plowed off for the curing, and the tobacco stalks and clover will make a fine crop to turn for corn in the spring, and in this way you can get the advantage of the clover in the improvement of the land, without planting tobacco immediately after turning under clover. If getting your land rich spoils the tobacco, drop the tobacco and grow something better."

There are whole counties in your State where farmers are keeping their land poor and themselves poor, too, because they are afraid to spoil their bright tobacco. Till bright tobacco has become a regular vampire, sucking the lifeblood of the soil. It does not pay to sacrifice the fertility of the soil for the sake of any particular crop, and if it is necessary to keep the land poor in order to grow the bright tobacco, the sooner you quit the crop the better for you and your land, too. Men in your section will gladly clear up a pine thicket for tobacco because of the profits that has accumulated there, and the same men are afraid to plant the better humus made by the decay of peas and clover. Then as to deep plowing. It will be all the better to break the land deep for any tobacco, provided it is cultivated level. Your neighbors will plow shallow and then hill up the soil deeply to the plants, while the crop would flourish better with a deeply broken soil and level cultivation, holding the moisture where the roots need it."

Keeping Sweet Potatoes.
"Where one has no proper curing-house, and grows sweet potatoes only on a small scale, how can they be best kept?" In a cellar where there is a heating furnace or boiler for heating the house, one can keep a small lot of sweet potatoes very well by putting them in barrels and filling all the interstices with dry sand. Where there is no such heat, a cellar may be too cold for sweet potatoes.
The only sweet potato that I have ever kept in a common frost-proof cellar with success is the Southern Queen, or Hayman, as it is generally called in Virginia. The ordinary yellow sweets, like the Long Stem Jersey and the Nansemond, will not keep well in a common cellar. But I have kept them till June perfectly sound in the following way: Place about twenty-five bushels in a conical heap on a layer of pine straw a foot thick under a rough open shed merely to keep the rain off. The heaps are covered thickly all over with pine straw and let stand till the nights get quite frosty, the object being to dry them off from the sweat that will always go through, and avoid getting them chilled while sweating. As the nights get frosty the heaps are covered with dry soil three inches thick, and let stand till quite cold weather threatens, and then the thickness of the soil is increased to six or eight inches. The dry soil under a shed will keep out far more cold than wet soil outside, and the shed is an important part of the keeping."

The most important part, however, is the handling of the potatoes in digging and storing. No cut potatoes should be stored, and all should be carefully handled. The digging should be done as soon as the first frost blackens the leaves, and, if practicable, when the soil is dry and the sun warm. Leave them lying along the rows as dug until the afternoon, and then gather them in crates or baskets to carry them to the storing place."

Where sweet potatoes are grown on a large scale, a curing house is a necessity for winter keeping. These houses are now often built at the railroad stations, and potatoes stored for farmers all around, while some growers build their own curing house. The houses are furnished with drying apparatus and ventilating arrangement, and the potatoes as soon as in and dried off at a temperature of 90 degrees, and after that the fire heat is seldom needed, and they keep well at a temperature of 45. But when sound and unbruised potatoes are at hand, the hill plan under a shed is a pretty certain method, but hardly available in the elevated and colder parts of the State. When I was a boy nearly every farm house in Eastern Virginia had a sweet potato pit under the hearth in the kitchen and extending some distance in front of the hearth, where there was a trap door to lift up to get at the potatoes. They cooked them in the big fireplace, and the pit was always moderately warm, and the potatoes kept there fine. Then we had the Spanish, the sweetest of sweet potatoes, and it was fun to get them out and roast them in the ashes covered with coals. The negro quarters generally had pits, too, and many a potato I have eaten there."

The Hardest Winter Oats.
"I would like to know if there is any difference in the hardiness of the various Southern winter oats? Have you tried the varieties grown further South and in Tennessee?"
I have never grown any except the Virginia Gray Turf oats and the Texas Red Rust Proof. The Virginia oats, grown in Virginia, should be more hardy than the varieties produced further South. In fact they are more hardy than the Texas oats, which are apt to have seed of the Johnson grass mixed with them, and this grass may not be wanted in sections of Virginia where it will thrive. The Apples is highly spoken of in Tennessee, but I have never grown it. Even for spring sowing I would prefer to use the Virginia Gray oats, rather than the Northern spring oats, as I have found that even for spring sowing they are best here."

Japan Clover.
"I have a pasture well set in Bermuda grass. I have heard that Japan clover will add value to the pasture. Can I sow it on this Bermuda sod or shall I have to prepare the land for it? How many pounds of seed an acre?"
If the Bermuda and the clover grow together, and the clover seeds in May, should not grazing stop to enable it to seed?
The so-called Japan clover is not a true clover, but is *Lepespedeza striata*. You can sow the seed in green pounds an acre over the Bermuda sod, and it will grow in the spring. I rather expect that you already have it, for it has spread as far north as the Rappahannock River. But it does not seed in May, but late in summer, and dies with the first frost, but seeds the land no matter how closely you pasture it. Like Bermuda, it is a summer pasture only. I have sown it among broom-sedge with perfect success on land too rocky to plow, and it ran out the broom-sedge."

G. A. R. REUNION IS FORMALLY OPEPED

Drizzling Rain Does Not Deter Veterans From Visiting Points of Interest.

MAKE MANY PILGRIMAGES

Look Over Battlefields and Correct Guides in Accounts of Conflicts.

Chattanooga, Tenn., September 15.—The formal opening to-day of the Grand Army of the Republic's forty-seventh annual encampment was occupied chiefly with sightseeing tours to historic battlefields in this vicinity. A drizzling rain, which lasted until night-fall, did not deter thousands of veterans from making pilgrimages to Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga Park and Missionary Ridge.

To-day was officially designated as "Lookout Mountain Day." For this reason a majority of the veterans visited the scenes of the struggles fifty years ago of Confederate forces under Generals Bragg and Longstreet, and Union troops commanded by Generals Grant and "Pap" Thomas.

The veterans were divided into groups, upon reaching the mountain, and guides related the history of the manoeuvres of the competing forces and told thrilling stories of many sharp encounters. Although these guides learned the facts of their stories from what are considered authoritative sources, they were frequently interrupted by veterans who participated in the struggle, and who volunteered corrections.

Interest in Election.
Interest of the veterans already is being manifested in the election of a commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. to succeed General Alfred B. Doers. Among the names prominently mentioned in this connection are Private Orlando Summers, of Kokomo, Ind.; Colonel Clair J. Adams, of Superior, Neb.; Washington Gardner, of Kalamazoo, Mich.; and General J. N. Harrison, of the Department of Kansas.

The first general business session of the national encampment will be called to order Thursday morning, and the election of officers is likely to take place soon thereafter.

Representatives from three cities have entered the contest for the forty-eighth annual encampment. Delegations from Mobile, Ala.; Houston, Tex.; and Detroit, Mich., are seeking this honor.

Many Visitors on Hand.
Estimates of local newspapers and city representatives handling the incoming crowds of veterans and visitors place the number in the city to-night as 35,000. This number includes delegates to the allied organizations holding simultaneous meetings in connection with the national encampment. Among the departments reported present to-night were:

Tennessee, William B. Atchley, Sevierville, Texas, Sidney Tuttle, San Antonio; Virginia and North Carolina, Charles H. Haber, National Soldiers' Home.

A reception, to which all veterans were invited, was tendered the visitors to-night.

The forty-first reunion of the Army of the Cumberland is also formally opened to-day. To-day's session was devoted to routine business, while to-night an address was delivered by General Anson Mills, U. S. A.

DEMANDS MASTER NOW MAKE GOOD

Treasury Department Forced to Know of Alleged "Wreck Sale" of Schooner.

Washington, September 15.—Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Sherman Allen to-day demanded by telegraph that Captain Joseph York, commander of the schooner George W. Wells, wrecked on the shoals of Hatteras, substantiate or withdraw his published charge that a combination formed by life-savers to buy wrecked vessels forced him to sell the wreck of the Wells for \$500.

Twenty-two people, including two women and two children, were rescued from the Wells by the life-savers off Ocracoke and Portsmouth stations when the vessel was driven ashore on September 3.

Sails for Boston.
Norfolk, Va., September 15.—Captain York, of the lost Boston schooner Wells, left Norfolk to-day on the coastwise sailing steamer Norfolk for Boston. Just before the arrival of the Treasury Department's telegram charging upon him for proof or retraction of his assertions reflecting upon the life-saver service.

Senate Bill for Good Roads.
Washington, September 15.—A bill to appropriate \$25,000,000 for the construction of roads in conjunction with the States and under the direction of a national bureau of public highways, was introduced in the Senate to-day by Senators Thornton and Bankhead. The bill proposes that the States provide an equal amount.

SETTLEMENT TRY PROVES FAILURE

Quietness Reigns in Strike Region While Great Parade Is Held.

Lansing, Mich., September 15.—Governor Merriam to-day received notice that another attempt to bring about a settlement of the upper peninsula for the strike had failed. The information came in a telegram from Allen F. Rees of Houghton, attorney for the mine managers, which stated that a plan of arbitration proposed by Chairman Lawton T. Hemans, of the State Railroad Commission, had failed. The plan, it is said, embodied the withdrawal of the Western Federation of Miners from the controversy.

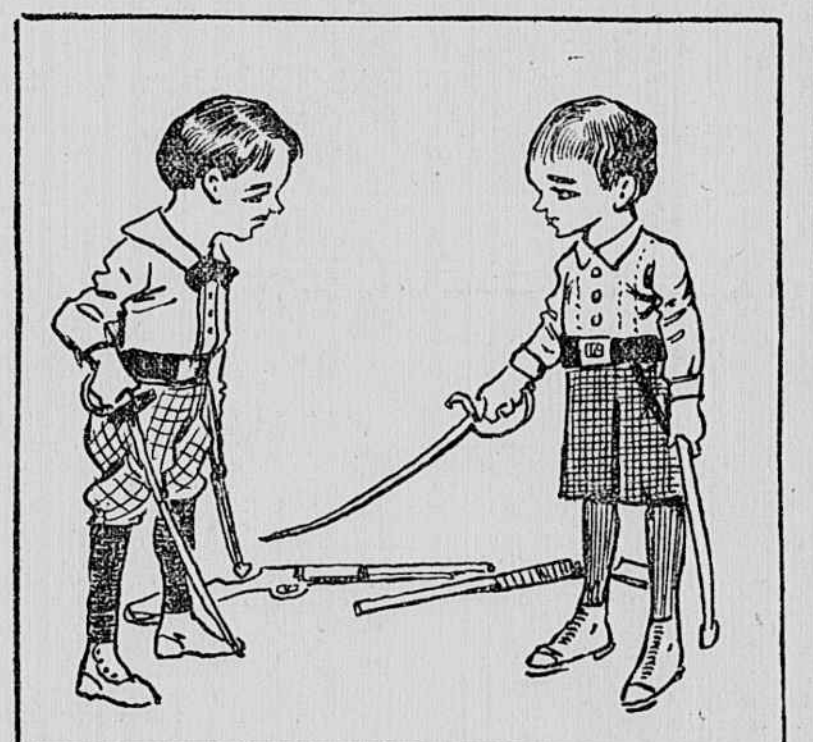
Calumet, Mich., September 15.—Quietness reigned in the copper strike district this morning. The strikers held the largest parade since the strike started, men and women being in line. The parade was for a settlement of the strike, one by the Copper Country Commercial Club, one by Governor Perry, and one by the Copper Country Chamber of Commerce. The parade was led by Clarence S. Barrow, and one by John M. Moffit, of the Federal Department of Labor.



Your Pictures Will Not Be Spoiled, Lost or Misplaced If You Have An Answer Book

The Answer Book enables you to make ten answers to each picture. The Answer Book is small, compact and saves time, labor and money. Turn in your sets in an Answer Book. Then you will turn in a neat set of answers.

The Times-Dispatch's Great
\$1200.00 Gold Booklovers' Contest
Picture No. 52 Date, September 16th.



What Book Does This Picture Represent?
Write Title and Name of Author in Form Below

Title
Author
Your Name
Street and Number
City or Town

TOTAL NUMBER OF PICTURES, 77. Contest began July 27th. Each day a different picture appears in this space. Cut them out. Save them until the last picture appears on October 11th. Don't send in partial lists. Wait until you have all the answers to the 77. Read Rules, Daily Story and Special Announcements in another part of this paper. It will help you win a prize. Extra pictures and coupons of any date that have appeared may be had at 2c. Enter to-day without registering your name. Merely Save Pictures and Coupons as they appear.

Essential Facts About The Times-Dispatch Booklovers' Contest

1. There is no cost to you except one copy of The Times-Dispatch daily and a Catalogue, if you feel the need of one.
2. You can enter now without registering your name.
3. Every member of the family may enter.
4. There are fun, recreation and pecuniary benefits.
5. Seventy-seven pictures comprise the series—the first July 27th, and running for 77 days, including Sundays.
6. The pictures appear every day in The Times-Dispatch.
7. Every picture is drawn to represent the title of one book.
8. You are permitted ten answers to each picture.
9. Every answer must be written on a separate coupon.
10. A Catalogue is supplied at 35 cents, 40 cents by mail, which contains 5,000 book titles, including the 77 correct ones. This Catalogue is now on sale.
11. You can win any of the wonderful prizes, which total \$1,200.
12. Three prominent business men of Richmond will be the judges.
13. Beware of fakers. Do not buy any lists of "correct titles."
14. You are free to ask questions, provided they do not bear upon the solving of pictures. You will be answered in the paper.

THIS IS A SAMPLE OF THE

Booklovers' Answer Book

INSTRUCTIONS and EXPLANATIONS

PASTE PICTURE BELOW THIS LINE

This Page Is For Puzzle No. 38

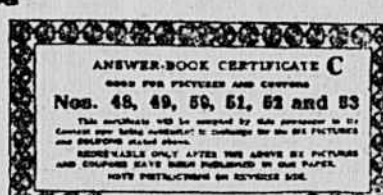
INSTRUCTIONS and EXPLANATIONS

Read the Contest rules in our paper. You will then know the number of puzzles that will be published during the contest, also how many answers you may submit to each one.

As each puzzle appears in the paper, cut it out. Try it neatly around the heavy dotted lines, attach same carefully on this sheet.

Each puzzle is numbered. When you have attached same in this space, study it carefully, and submit your answers on the page below.

In the space on the page below is plenty of room for submitting one or as many replies to this puzzle as the rules of the Contest allow.



GET AN ANSWER BOOK (It Contains 77 Double Pages) AND 35 PICTURES FREE

You can make ten answers to each picture, yet only need but one copy of each picture.

On the upper page you paste a picture. On the lower section you write from one to ten book titles which you have selected for the picture pasted above.

You save time, labor and expense with an Answer Book, and it helps you to win.

USE THIS ORDER FORM FOR THE ANSWER BOOK.

Booklovers' Contest Editor, 1913.
The Times-Dispatch:
Find herewith 80 cents (75 cents at office), for which deliver to me your Answer Book and six certificates, returnable as the pictures appear in the contest for Pictures Nos. 36 to 70.
Name
Street and No.
City State
Do not send stamps or silver. Send check or money order.

USE THIS ORDER BLANK FOR CATALOGUE

If you cut this order form, fill it out and send or bring it in with the sum designated, you will receive the Official Copyrighted Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles, and seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures in the contest. In the catalogue are all the correct titles to the seventy-seven pictures. Catalogues, 35 cents at this office, 40 cents by mail.

Do Not Send Stamps or Silver. Send Check or Money Order

Booklovers' Contest Editor,
The Times-Dispatch:
Inclosed find 40 cents, for which send me a Booklovers' Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles and the seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures.
Name
Street and No.
City State

Safeguarding the Contest

Entire supervision of this contest will be turned over to three of the city's well-known men, whose names will be announced later. These Booklovers' Contest Judges will have immediate and personal charge of the contest game, certifying to the list of correct titles, conducting the checking of the sets of answers and approving the selection of the winning sets.

The principal features in connection with this contest are copyrighted by the Booklovers' Contest Co., San Francisco, Cal.

A Word to Business Men

Since I have been editing these two columns for the farmers I have tried especially to put in them just what farmers are wanting to know, and have invited their correspondence. Many of these letters ask me to tell them where to buy certain seeds, implements, fertilizers and live stock. Now, such questions, when I can answer them, involve the writing of a personal letter, for it is not fair to advertisers, who pay for space, that I should advertise in these columns any one firm free of cost. Now, to complete the page, which farmers all over Virginia and the adjoining States are now reading, we should have the advertisements of the houses that deal in the things that farmers want. Many farmers are now interested in home canning of fruits and vegetables, and they write to me to know where best to buy the cans. They want clover seed, grain and grass seed, and want to know who sells them. They want a certain style of plow or cultivator, a fanning mill, or what not, and contains my replies to their letters contained the business announcements of the houses that deal in the things they want, the ads will certainly be read, for there are many cutting out this page and preline, they will keep the ads, too, for reference, and I will have no hesitancy in referring inquirers to houses that offer what they want and are paying for the ads.

I have written personal replies to 2,826 letters from farmers.

W. F. MASSEY.